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**Montana Department of Commerce Awards \$15,000 in
Funding to Butte-Silver Bow County**

(HELENA) – The Montana Department of Commerce has awarded \$15,000 in funding from the Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) Program to Butte-Silver Bow County to complete a feasibility study for a proposed Chafin-Fuhrlander Wind Turbine Manufacturing facility to be located in Montana.

The County will use the \$15,000 in partnership with \$25,000 from the Butte-Silver Bow Tax Increment Financed Industrial District (TIFD), and \$10,000 from Chafin-Fuhrlander to conduct a feasibility study to determine current and future market demands for wind turbine generation machines, types required to meet market needs, regulatory climate, and timelines for production. The study will be conducted by the Butte-Silver Bow Community Development Department and Headwater RC&D.

“I am eager to assist in constructing a world class wind turbine manufacturing facility in Montana,” said Governor Brian Schweitzer. “Energy development is our future and its potential for economic growth is great. Montana is an ideal location for wind energy development and the ability to manufacture wind turbines in state is particularly exciting.”

“The Department is pleased to help Butte-Silver Bow with this feasibility study,” said Anthony Preite, Director of the Montana Department of Commerce. “The development of energy resources in Montana are extremely important to our economic development. The

proposed Chafin-Furlander Wind Turbine Manufacturing facility would be a great resource for energy development and quality employment in Montana.”

Headwaters RC&D will assist with the facilitation of the project.

Montana's Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) program is designed to stimulate economic development activity by assisting Montana's private sector in job creation or retention for low and moderate income persons.

The CDBG-ED program receives funding from the Community Development Block Grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Economic Development Administration.

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